

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 24, 2003

SENATE BILL

No. 563

Introduced by Senator Ackerman

February 20, 2003

An act relating to water resources, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 563, as amended, Ackerman. Water Quality Information Clearinghouse.

~~The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002, a measure approved by the voters on March 5, 2002, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$2,600,000,000 for the purposes of financing acquisition and development projects.~~

~~This bill would appropriate \$15,000,000 from bond funds made available by that measure to the University of California to fund the establishment of a Water Quality Information Clearinghouse, whose purpose would be to consolidate relevant information on water quality studies, available technologies, state regulations, and public and private grants. This provision would not be operative unless and until~~

The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, an initiative measure approved by the voters at the November 5, 2002, statewide general election, authorizes, for the purposes of financing a safe drinking water, water quality, and water reliability program, the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,440,000.

This bill would appropriate \$15,000,000 made available by that act to the State Water Resources Control Board for allocation to the University of California to finance the establishment of a Water Quality

Information Clearinghouse to facilitate the restoration and protection of the water quality and environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and nearshore waters, and groundwater in accordance with a certain provision of that act. This provision would become operative only if the Regents of the University of California certify to the Controller that the funds appropriated by the bill will be used to establish the clearinghouse.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. — Of the funds made available pursuant to Section~~
2 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
3 *following:*
4 (i) *Local agencies in the State of California are required under*
5 *federal and state law to implement new strategies and technologies*
6 *in the form of “best management practices” to control pollutants*
7 *in runoff.*
8 (ii) *At the same time, there is currently no central statewide*
9 *collection point for information on these new strategies and*
10 *technologies, their costs, or relative effectiveness.*
11 (iii) *A statewide information clearinghouse will provide a*
12 *central source for posting of regulations, listing of pertinent*
13 *statutes, providing information on existing water conditions*
14 *throughout the state, publicizing available water quality*
15 *improvement technologies, and informing the public with regard*
16 *to water quality projects that employ best management practices.*
17 (iv) *A statewide information clearinghouse will facilitate public*
18 *access to information, expedite research, avoid costly duplication*
19 *of fiscal and personnel resources, and encourage compliance with*
20 *the law.*
21 (v) *It is the intent of the Legislature that the funds appropriated*
22 *by this act will be expended by the University of California to*
23 *establish a state-of-the-art central information clearinghouse for*
24 *projects to improve water quality.*
25 (vi) *It is the intent of the Legislature that the funds appropriated*
26 *by this act will enhance the delivery of information related to water*
27 *quality improvement projects through consolidation into an*

1 *Internet database that is easily accessible to interested parties and*
2 *the general public on a statewide basis.*

3 (g) *The enactment of this act is consistent with the intent of*
4 *Section 79543 of the Water Code to restore and protect the water*
5 *quality and environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and*
6 *nearshore waters, and groundwater.*

7 SEC. 2. *Of the funds made available pursuant to Section*
8 *79543 of the Water Code, the sum of fifteen million dollars*
9 *(\$15,000,000) is hereby appropriated to the State Water Resources*
10 *Control Board for allocation to the University of California, to*
11 *finance the establishment of a Water Quality Information*
12 *Clearinghouse to facilitate the restoration and protection of the*
13 *water quality and environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays*
14 *and nearshore waters, and groundwater in accordance with*
15 *Section 79543 of the Water Code. The board shall only allocate the*
16 *funds appropriated by this section to the extent it determines that*
17 *the expenditure of the funds would be consistent with the*
18 *requirements of Section 79543 of the Water Code.*

19 SEC. 3. *Section 2 of this act shall become operative only if the*
20 *Regents of the University of California certify to the Controller*
21 *that the funds appropriated in that section will be used to establish*
22 *the Water Quality Information Clearinghouse, as specified in that*
23 *section.*

24 ~~5096.650 of the Public Resources Code, the sum of fifteen million~~
25 ~~dollars (\$15,000,000) is hereby appropriated to the University of~~
26 ~~California, to fund the establishment of a Water Quality~~
27 ~~Information Clearinghouse to be located at the Information Center~~
28 ~~for the Environment at the University at California at Davis. The~~
29 ~~purpose of the clearinghouse is to consolidate relevant information~~
30 ~~on water quality studies, available technologies, state regulations,~~
31 ~~and public and private grants.~~

32 ~~SEC. 2.—Section 1 of this act is not operative unless and until~~
33 ~~the Regents of the University of California certify to the Controller~~
34 ~~that the funds appropriated in that section will be used to establish~~
35 ~~the Water Quality Information Clearinghouse, as specified in that~~
36 ~~section.~~